

COUNTRY Eastern Germany

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Military Information from the Ohrdruf Troop Training Grounds

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EVALUATION 25X1

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT 1 to 18 September 1952

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 22 October 1952

REFERENCES 25X1

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

RETURN

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1. During the period from 8 to 18 September 1952, the barracks installations, 1 km northeast of Ohrdruf (M 51/J 15), were occupied to capacity by troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank, artillery, motor transport and signal insignia. [redacted] most of the troops were young soldiers with close-cropped hair. On 8 September, a tent camp of about 20 large tents was noticed on the south side of the quarters south of Arnstaedter Strasse. Eight pontoons and some trucks were seen there. Source learned from some local residents on 12 September that typhus had broken out in some of the quarters on Arnstaedter Strasse. Motor vehicles [redacted]

[redacted] were seen entering and leaving the barracks installations. *

2. On 17 September 1952, the wood camp northwest of Crawinkel on Highway 88 was occupied to capacity. A tent camp of about 20 tents each quartering 20 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets was noticed close to the wood camp. About 40 T-34/85 tanks, some covered with tarpaulins; model BA-64 armored scout [redacted] armored personnel carrier were seen in the camp. Three T-34/85 tanks [redacted] entered the camp, coming from the direction of Goldberg. [redacted]

3. On 18 September, 6 guns and 15 trucks were seen in the wood camp at Petriroda.***

4. At 6:30 on 17 September, 8 x 76.2-mm field guns; 2 x 76.2-infantry guns; 20 trucks [redacted] 2 field kitchens; and an undetermined number of troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia were loaded at the Ohrdruf railroad station. The unit came from the direction of the barracks installations on Arnstaedter Strasse. *

5. On 3 September, the quarters on Arnstaedter Strasse were occupied to capacity by troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets. *
At 9:45 a.m. on 1 September, 6 long-barreled guns, 6 trucks, 1 radio truck, 1 ambulance, 4 sedans and about 150 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets were detained at the Ohrdruf railroad station. The unit moved to the barracks installations on Arnstaedter Strasse. [redacted]

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6. In early September, the wood camp west of Crawinkel was occupied to capacity by a unit whose personnel wore red-bordered black epaulets, most of them with tank insignia and some with artillery or motor transport insignia. Numerous trucks [redacted] were parked in the southeastern section of the camp. Several T-34 tanks [redacted] were seen in the northwestern section. The unit was observed engaged in practicing with and without rifles in groups, in field training, firing practice with rifles and athletics. **

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7. On 8 September, an artillery unit with 19 camouflaged 122-mm guns had taken up position east of the Chrduruf-Gotha road. Nineteen prime movers [redacted] were parked nearby. At 6 p.m. on the same day, 6 x 122-mm field howitzers; 20 trucks [redacted] with ammunition boxes and billeting equipment; and about 100 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets were loaded at the Chrduruf railroad station. ***

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Comment.

The information contained in paragraph 4 tends to indicate that a unit of the 87th Gun Arty Regt of this division was loaded on 17 September.

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